



# NATIONAL MINING HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

## **Prazen Living Legend of Mining Award**

Gary Prazen was passionate about preserving mining history and did so through his art. Recognized as the most prolific and renowned sculptor of mining subjects in bronze, his body of work is synonymous with mining. His pieces are on display around the globe in museums, corporate offices, private collections, and in numerous commissioned public space memorials.

In 1995, Gary established the Prazen Living Legend of Mining Award, a 28-inch bronze miner to be presented each year, in perpetuity, by the National Mining Hall of Fame in recognition of significant contributions of individuals, groups, or companies that increase awareness and understanding of what the mining industry means to all of us and about the vital role the miner plays in our daily lives. The "public" is defined as the United States public at large- all members of society with a focus on policy makers; educators; and students.

Gary passed away in November of 2016. His daughter Patricia and son-in-law, Danny Blanton, are now at the helm of Gary's business, Original Creations. They continue to uphold Gary's vision for the award and his commitment to the museum.

To be eligible for the award, an individual or entity must have demonstrated ongoing, innovative programming/work educating the public about the critical role of the mineral and mining industry to our everyday lives. The work should have enhanced society's view of mining and generated understanding of the relationship mining has to every aspect of modern-day life.

Anyone may put forth a nomination for the award:

The letter of nomination should, at a minimum, include:

- Date of the nomination.
- Nominator's contact information including phone number and email.
- Individual/organization/program name being nominated.
- Contact information for the individual or entity being nominated.
- A summary narrative detailing the program, activities, and successes of the individual and/or entity being nominated in educating the public about the necessity of mining to our everyday lives and detailing the impact stated activities have had in enhancing society's understanding about the need for mining, and explaining what makes the nominee's efforts stand out among others.
- Include brochures and materials that convey the purpose and target audience of the program along with samples of media coverage, photographs of the individual or group in action, testimonials, or other materials that evidence the quality and benefits of the programs.

Submit materials by December 31 to:

Jackie Dorr, NMHFM Prazen Committee Co-Chair  
Society for Mining, Metallurgy, & Exploration  
12999 E. Adam Aircraft Circle  
Englewood, CO 80112  
Phone: 303-948-4200  
Email: dorr@smenet.org

### **THE SHOWCASE OF AMERICAN MINING**

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## **Prazen Living Legend of Mining Award Recipients**

Every year, the National Mining Hall of Fame & Museum selects an individual or entity that has demonstrated ongoing, innovative work educating the public, policy makers, educators, or related institutions about the importance of the mineral and mining industry to our everyday lives. The awardee is selected from a pool of nominations reviewed by the National Mining Hall of Fame's Prazen committee.

1995 Colorado Mining Association Education Foundation, Inc. and the Colorado School of Mines

1996 North Carolina Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources and the N.C. Geological Survey

1997 Indiana Mineral Aggregates Association

1998 Women in Mining

1999 Caterpillar, Inc.

2000 Mineral Information Institute

2001 SME GEM Program

2002 Quarry Quest

2003 McCaw School of Mines

2004 Missouri Minerals Education Foundation

2005 Arizona Foundation for Resource Education

2006 The Sterling Hill Mining Museum

2007 Dick Moolick, Chairman, NMHFM

2008 Colorado Mining Exhibit Foundation

2009 Historical Society of Idaho Springs

2010 Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute

2011 Ohio Aggregates and Industrial Minerals Association

2012 National Mining Association

2013 Nevada Mining Association

2014 Pamela A. K. Wilkinson

2015 Powell River Project

2016 Women's Mining Coalition

2017 Boy Scouts of America

2018 Freeport-McMoRan Foundation

2019 American Exploration & Mining Association